

I strongly support Alvarez's proposal that *Atrypa laevis* be designated the type species of *Meristella*, as it has for very many years been the basis of the concept of *Meristella*. The original type species by monotypy, *Atrypa naviformis* Hall, 1843, is very poorly known. I write as one who has used *Meristella* in his work for many years and who was the senior author for the section on retrospiroides, including *Meristella*, in the first edition of the *Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology*; I confirm that *M. laevis* was what we had in mind when describing *Meristella*.

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I have read with interest Alvarez's application, and regard it as sound and worthy of support.

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I am writing to express support for Alvarez's application; this will provide stability to what has been an accepted situation for a long time, particularly since the publication of the 1965 *Treatise* volume.

Comment on the proposed conservation of the specific name of *Hemidactylus garnotti* Duméril & Bibron, 1836 (Reptilia, Squamata)
(Case 2960; see BZN 53: 184–186)

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I am in full support of the application to conserve the specific name of *Hemidactylus garnotti* Duméril & Bibron, 1836 by suppressing the specific name of *H. peruvianus* Wiegmann, 1835.

The name *garnotti* has been repeatedly used in most, if not all, relevant publications, including several taxonomic and genetic papers published subsequent to Bauer & Henle (1994) (para. 6 of the application). Among these are Ota, Lau & Bogadek (1995) and Ota et al. (1996).

Adoption of the name *H. peruvianus* would be seriously confusing, not only to systematists but also to geneticists dealing with this clonal gecko. I believe that, in consideration of the stability of nomenclature, an exception to priority is warranted under Article 79c of the Code.

Additional references

- Ota, H., Hikida, T., Matsui, M., Chan-Ard, T. & Nabhitabhata, J. 1996. Discovery of a diploid population of the *Hemidactylus garnotii-vietnamensis* complex (Reptilia: Gekkonidae). *Genetica*, **97**(1): 81–85.
- Ota, H., Lau, M.W. & Bogadek, A. 1995. Taxonomic status of the Hong Kong populations of the *Hemidactylus garnotii-vietnamensis* complex (Gekkonidae: Reptilia). *Zoological Studies*, **34**(2): 126–130.

Comment on the proposed conservation of some mammal generic names first published in Brisson's (1762) *Regnum Animale*

(Case 2928; see BZN **51**: 135–146, 266–267, 342–348; **52**: 78–93, 187–192, 271–275, 347–350; **53**: 191–192, 278–286)

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I found this application most informative.

In my view there is every reason to conserve Brisson's (1762) generic names for mammals when the Commission has already conserved *Odobenus* Brisson, 1762 and some of Brisson's (1760) names for birds.

The mammal names *Philander*, *Pteropus*, *Glis*, *Cuniculus*, *Hydrochoerus*, *Meles*, *Lutra*, *Hyaena*, *Tapirus*, *Tragulus* and *Giraffa* have been in use for many years and are in current use. The Code urges stability and I believe that these 11 names, and only these, should be formally accepted from Brisson (1762).